

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

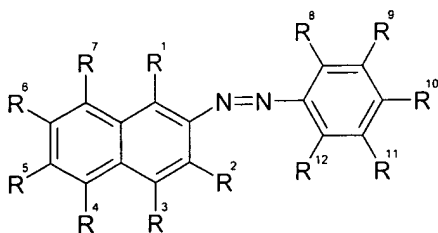
**Listing of Claims:**

Please amend the claims as shown below:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~An Aqueous~~ aqueous, colloidal gas black suspension,  
~~characterised in that it contains~~ comprising:

a gas black,

an azo compound of the ~~general~~ formula 1



(1)

wherein R<sup>1</sup> to R<sup>12</sup> may be the same or different and consist of hydrogen, hydrophilic or hydrophobic groups, acceptor or donor substituents or parts of aliphatic, aromatic or heteroaromatic, acyclic, cyclic or polycyclic systems having acceptor, donor, hydrophilic or hydrophobic groups,

and water.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~An Aqueous~~ aqueous, colloidal gas black suspension according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ the gas black has a content of volatile constituents (950°C) of < 21 wt.%, a BET surface area of from 80 to 350 m<sup>2</sup>/g, a primary particle size of from 8 to 40 nm and a DBP number of from 40 to 200 ml/100 g.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~An Aqueous~~ aqueous, colloidal gas black suspension according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ the gas black ~~content~~ is present in the amount of < 30 wt.%.
4. (Currently Amended) ~~The Aqueous~~ aqueous, colloidal gas black suspension according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ the ~~content of~~ azo compound of the ~~general~~ formula 1 is present in an amount of < 5 wt.%.
5. (Currently Amended) ~~The Aqueous~~ aqueous, colloidal gas black suspension according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ the azo compound of the ~~general~~ formula 1 contains less than 30 wt.% impurity.
6. (Currently Amended) ~~The Aqueous~~ aqueous, colloidal gas black suspension according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ the azo compound of the ~~general~~ formula 1 contains less than 10 wt.% salt.
7. (Currently Amended) ~~The Aqueous~~ aqueous, colloidal gas black suspension according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ the azo compound is Acid Black 1, Mordant Green 17 or Mordant Blue 13.
8. (Currently Amended) ~~The Aqueous~~ aqueous, colloidal gas black suspension according to claim 7, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ the azo compound Acid Black 1, Mordant Green 17 or Mordant Blue 13 contains less than 30 wt.% impurity and less than 10 wt.% salt.
9. (Currently Amended) ~~The Aqueous~~ aqueous, colloidal gas black suspension according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that it contains biocides~~ further comprising a biocide, wetting ~~agents~~ agent and/or ~~additives~~ additive.
10. (Currently Amended) ~~The Aqueous~~ aqueous, colloidal gas black suspension according to claim 9, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ the wetting agent is a fatty alcohol ethoxylate, polyacrylic acid or/and derivatives thereof, copolymer containing acrylic acid, acrylic acid derivatives, styrenes, styrene derivatives and/or polyethers, lignosulfonate, alkyl-benzenesulfonate, naphthalenesulfonic acid derivative, copolymer containing maleic

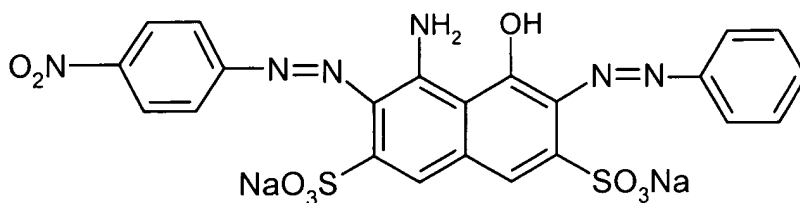
anhydride and/or maleic acid derivatives, or combinations of the mentioned wetting agents.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~The Aqueous~~ aqueous, colloidal gas black suspension according to claim 9, ~~characterised in that wherein the content of~~ wetting agent is present from 0 to 1 wt.%.
12. (Currently Amended) ~~The Aqueous~~ aqueous, colloidal gas black suspension according to claim 9, ~~characterised in that wherein the~~ additive is an alcohol, glycol, heterocyclic compound or glycerol.
13. (Currently Amended) ~~The Aqueous~~ aqueous, colloidal gas black suspension according to claim 9, ~~characterised in that wherein the additive content is~~ present in an amount of < 25 wt.%.
14. (Currently Amended) A process for the production of the aqueous, colloidal gas black suspension according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that comprising dispersing the gas black and the azo compound of the general formula 1 are dispersed in water.~~
15. (Currently Amended) ~~The Aqueous~~ aqueous, colloidal gas black suspension according to claim 14, ~~characterised in that further comprising dispersing by the dispersion is carried out using bead mills, ultrasonic devices, high-pressure homogenisers[[,]] microfluidizers, or high speed mixer Ultra-Turrax or comparable apparatuses.~~
16. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of the A composition of matter selected from the group consisting of an ink, ink-jet ink, surface coating and colored printing ink containing the aqueous, colloidal gas black suspension according to claim 1 in inks, ink-jet inks, surface coatings and coloured printing inks.~~
17. (Currently Amended) ~~Ink, characterised in that it contains~~ An ink composition containing the aqueous, colloidal gas black suspension according to claim 1.
18. (New) The aqueous, colloidal gas black suspension according to claim 1, wherein the substituents R<sup>1</sup> to R<sup>12</sup> can be phenyl, naphthyl, pyrrolyl, pyridinyl, furyl, puryl, -COOR<sup>13</sup>,

-CO-R<sup>13</sup>, -CN, -SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>13</sup> or -SO<sub>2</sub>OR<sup>13</sup>, wherein R<sup>13</sup> = H, alkali metal cation, ammonium, alkyl, aryl, ω-carboxyalkyl, HSO<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>x</sub>H<sub>y</sub>-, H<sub>2</sub>N-C<sub>x</sub>H<sub>y</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>N-SO<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>x</sub>H<sub>y</sub>- (x = 1-20; y = 1-45), donor substituents, that are alkyl, aryl groups, OR<sup>14</sup>, N(R<sup>14</sup>)<sub>2</sub>, SR<sup>14</sup> or P(R<sup>14</sup>)<sub>2</sub>, wherein R<sup>14</sup> = H, alkyl, aryl or functionalised alkyl or aryl, oligomers or polymers of the form -(O-R<sup>14</sup>)<sub>y</sub>-OR<sup>15</sup>, wherein R<sup>15</sup> = H, alkyl or aryl.

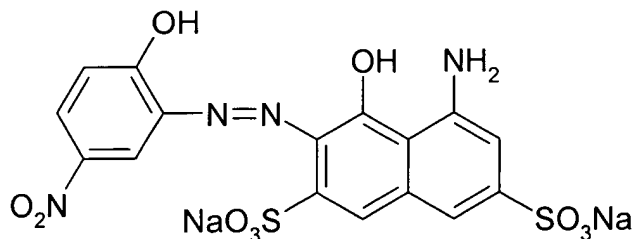
19. (New) The aqueous, colloidal gas black suspension according to claim 1, wherein the azo compound is

Acid Black 1 (C.I. 20470)



or

Mordant Green 17 (C.I. 17225)



or

